

International Day of the World's Indigenous People



Background

By resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994, the United Nations General Assembly decided to celebrate the International Day of the World's Indigenous People on August 9 every year during the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. In 2004 the Assembly proclaimed a Second International Decade by resolution 59/174. The goal of this Decade is to further strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as culture, education, health, human rights, the environment, and social and economic development.

"Indigenous peoples are free and equal to all other individuals" – Article 2 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Resources

[The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly 13 September 2007.

Learn about the [history of indigenous peoples](#) and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Check out the EJournal, [Indigenous People Today](#), published in 2009 by the U.S. Department of State. It contains interviews and articles and photo gallery about indigenous issues. You can download it here: [View PDF \(2.78 MB\)](#)

Read a [report on the state of the world's indigenous peoples](#) by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Download the [full report](#).

Get Involved

[The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](#) is calling for applications under the Small Grants Programme for project proposals with a focus on indigenous peoples to be submitted between July 1, 2010 and October 1, 2010 to indigenousfund@un.org. For more information see http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/second_trustfund.html